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FRESH (W1): Body of rock is not oxidized or discolored; fracture surfaces are not oxidized or discolored*; no separation of grain boundaries; no change of texture and no solutioning. Hammer rings when crystalline rocks are struck.

SLIGHTLY WEATHERED TO FRESH (W2):**

SLIGHTLY WEATHERED (W3): Discoloration or oxidation is limited to surface of, or short distance from fractures; some feldspar crystals are dull; fracture surfaces have minor to complete discoloration or oxidation; no visible separation of grain boundaries; texture preserved and minor leaching of soluble minerals may be present. Hammer rings when crystalline rocks are struck, body of rock is not weakened by weathering.

MODERATELY TO SLIGHTLY WEATHERED (W4):**

MODERATELY WEATHERED (W5): Discoloration or oxidation extends from fractures, usually throughout body of rock; ferromagnesian minerals are "rusty", feldspar crystals are "cloudy"; all fracture surfaces are discolored or oxidized; partial opening of grain boundaries visible; texture generally preserved, but soluble minerals may be mostly leached. Hammer does not ring when rock is struck, body of rock is slightly weakened.

INTENSELY TO MODERATELY WEATHERED (W6):**

INTENSELY WEATHERED (W7): Body of rock is discolored or oxidized throughout; all feldspars and ferromagnesian minerals are altered to clay to some extent. All fracture surfaces are discolored or oxidized, and friable; partial separation of grain boundaries, rock is friable; in situ disaggregation of granitics common in semi—arid regions; texture altered and leaching of soluble minerals may be complete. Rock has dull sound when struck with hammer; rock is weakened, usually can be broken with moderate to heavy manual pressure or by light hammer blow without reference to planes of weakness.

VERY INTENSELY WEATHERED (W8):**

DECOMPOSED (W9): Body of rock is discolored or oxidized throughout, but resistant minerals such as quartz may be unaltered; all feldspars and ferro—magnesian minerals are completely altered to clay; complete separation of grain boundaries (disaggregated), partial or complete remnant rock structure may be preserved, but resembles a soil.

NOTE: Weathering categories are established primarily for crystalline rocks and those with ferromagnesian minerals, weathering in various sedimentary rocks will not always fit the categories established — weathering categories may be modified for particular site conditions or alteration such as hydrothermal alteration. Where modified criteria are established, they should be identified and described.

- * Characteristics of fracture surfaces do not include <u>directional</u> weathering along shears or faults and their associated fracture zones; for example a shear that carries weathering to great depths in a fresh rock mass would not require the whole rock mass to be classified as weathered.
- ** Combination descriptors are used when equal distribution of both weathering characteristics are present over significant intervals or where characteristics noted are "in between" the diagnostic characteristics.

DURABILITY INDEX

OURABILITY DESCRIPTOR	DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA
DIØ	Rock specimen or exposure remains intact with no deleterious cracking after exposure longer than 1 year.
DI1	Rock specimen or exposure develops hairline cracking on surfaces within 1 month, but no disaggregation within 1 year of exposure.
DI2	Rock specimen or exposure develops hairline cracking on surfaces within 1 week, and/or disaggregation within 1 month of exposure.
DI3	Specimen or exposure may develop hairline cracks in 1 day and displays pronounced separation of bedding and/or disaggregation within 1 week of exposure.
DI4	Specimen or exposure displays pronounced cracking and disaggregation within 1 day (24 hours) of exposure. Generally ravels and degrades to small fragments.

COLOR

The Munsell color system (Geologic Society of America Rock Color Chart) should be used. This system defines wet color by its hue, value, and chroma. Color symbols used (i.e., 5 YR 5/6 may be included).

SEDIMENTARY AND PYROCLASTIC ROCK PARTICLE SIZES

Size	Sedimentary Rounded, subrounded, subangular		Pyroclastic	
in mm	Particle or fragment	Lithified product	Fragment	Lithified product
256 _	Boulder	Boulder conglomerate	Block ^(a)	Volcanic (a) breccia
64	Cobble	Cobble conglomerate	or Bomb ^(b)	Volcanic ^(b) agglomerate
4 .	Pebble	Pebble conglomerate	Lapilli	Lapillistone and Lapilli
2 _	Granule	Granule conglomerate		tuff
1 0.5	Very coarse sand	Sandstone	Coarse ash	Coarse tuff
0.25	Medium sand	(Very coarse, coarse, medium, fine, or very fine)		
0.125 _ 0.0625 _ 0.00391_	Fine sand			
	Very fine sand			
	Silt	Siltstone/ Shale		
	Clay	Claystone Shale	Fine ash	Fine tuff

(a) Broken from previous igneous rock, block shaped (angular to subangular).
(b) Solidified from plastic material while in flight, rounded clasts.

IGNEOUS AND METAMORPHIC ROCK TEXTURE

TEXTURE DESCRIPTOR

AVERAGE GRAIN DIAMETER

VERY COARSE GRAINED OR PEGMATITIC
COARSE GRAINED 5-10 mm [3/16 -3/8 in]
MEDIUM GRAINED 1-5 mm [1/32 -3/16 in]
FINE GRAINED 0.1-1 mm [0.004 - 1/32 in]
APHANITIC (Cannot be seen with the unaided eve)

ADDITIONAL TEXTURAL ADJECTIVES

PIT (pitted) - pinhole to 0.03 ft [3/8 in] (<1 to 10 mm) openings.

VUG (vuggy) — Small openings (usually lined with crystals) ranging in diameter from 0.03 ft [3/8 in] to 0.33 ft [4 in] (10 to 100 mm).

CAVITY — An opening larger than 0.33 ft [4 in] (100 mm), size descriptions are required, and adjectives such as small, large, etc., may be used.

 $\mbox{HONEYCOMBED}-\mbox{If numerous enough that only thin walls separate individual pits or vugs, this term further describes the preceding nomenclature to indicate cell-like form.$

VESICLE (vesicular) — Small openings in volcanic rocks of variable shape and size formed by entrapped gas bubbles during solidification.

BEDDING FOLIATION OR FLOW TEXTURE

DESCRIPTORS

THICKNESS/SPACING

MASSIVE VERY THICKLY (bedded, foliated or banded) THICKLY MODERATELY

Greater than 10 ft (>3 m) ed, 3 to 10 ft (1 to 3 m)

THINLY
VERY THINLY
LAMINATED (Intensely
foliated or banded)

1 to 3 ft (300 mm to 1 m) 0.3 to 1 ft (100 to 300 mm) 0.1 to 0.3 ft (30 to 100 mm) 0.03 [3/8 in] to 0.1 ft (10 to 30 mm) Less than 0.03 ft [3/8 in] (<10 mm)

BEDROCK HARDNESS/STRENGTH

EXTREMELY HARD (H1): Core, fragment or exposure cannot be scratched with knife or sharp pick; can only be chipped with repeated heavy hammer blows.

VERY HARD (H2): Cannot be scratched with knife or sharp pick. Core or fragment breaks with repeated heavy hammer blows.

HARD (H3): Can be scratched with knife or sharp pick with difficulty (heavy pressure). Heavy hammer blow required to break specimen.

 $\label{eq:moderate_moderate} \mbox{MODERATELY HARD (H4):} \quad \mbox{Can be scratched with knife or sharp pick with light or moderate pressure.} \quad \mbox{Core or fragment breaks with moderate hammer blow.}$

MODERATELY SOFT (H5): Can be grooved 1/16 inch (2 mm) deep by knife or sharp pick with moderate or heavy pressure. Core or fragment breaks with light hammer blow or heavy manual pressure.

SOFT (H6): Can be grooved or gouged easily by knife or sharp pick with light pressure, can be scratched with fingernail. Breaks with light to moderate manual pressure.

VERY SOFT (H7): Can be readily indented, grooved or gouged with fingernail, or carved with a knife. Breaks with light manual pressure.

Any bedrock unit softer than H7, Very Soft, is to be described using USBR 5005-86 (visual classification of soils) consistency characteristics.

CONVERTED ORIGINAL DRAWING 40-D-6493 TO ACAD, CHANGED

DUG. NO., MINOR REVISIONS.

ALWAYS THINK SAFETY

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GEOLOGY FOR DESIGN & SPECIFICATIONS

STANDARD DESCRIPTORS AND DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA FOR ROCK

GEOLOGY NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE CHECKED CHUCK SULLIVAN

DRAWN MARSHALL MONSON TECH. APPROVAL PETER M. ROHRER

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DAIE AND TIME PLOTTED

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FRACTURE - A term used to describe any natural break in geologic material excluding shears and shear zones. Additional fracture terminology is provided below.

SHEAR - A structural break where differential movement has taken place along a surface or zone of failure by shear; characterized by striations, slickensides, gouge, breccia, mylonite, or any combination of these. Often direction, amount of displacement, and continuity may not be known because of limited exposures or observations.

 ${\sf FAULT-A \ shear \ with \ significant \ continuity \ which \ can \ be \ correlated \ between \ observations;}$ occurs over a significant portion of a given site, foundation area, or region; or is a segment of a fault or fault zone defined in the literature. The designation of a shear as a fault or fault zone is a site-specific determination.

SHEAR/FAULT ZONE - A shear that is expressed in relative terms of width. The zone may consist of gouge, breccia, or many related faults or shears together with fractured and crushed rock between the shears and faults, or any combination of these. In the literature many fault zones simply are referred to as faults.

 ${\sf SHEAR-/FAULT-DISTURBED\ ZONE-An\ associated\ zone\ of\ fractures\ and/or\ folds}$ adjacent to a shear or shear zone where the country rock has been subjected to only minor cataclastic action and may be mineralized. If adjacent to a fault or fault zone, the term is <u>fault-disturbed zone</u>. Occurrence, orientation, and areal extent of these phenomena depend upon depth of burial (pressure and temperature) during shearing, brittleness of materials, and the stress envelope

FRACTURE TERMINOLOGY

EXAMPLES SHOWN FOR CORE, BUT APPLICABLE TO ANY OBSERVATION



JOINT (JT) - A relatively planar fracture along which there has been little or no shearing displacement.



FOLIATION JOINT (FJ) OR BEDDING JOINT (BJ) - a relatively planar fracture which is parallel to foliation or bedding along which there has been little or no shearing displacement.



BEDDING PLANE SEPARATION - A separation along bedding after extraction or exposure due to stress relief or slaking.

INCIPIENT JOINT (IJ) OR INCIPIENT FRACTURE (IF) - A joint or fracture which does not continue through the specimen or at least is not seen with the naked eye. However, when the specmen is wetted, and then allowed to dry, the joint or fracture trace is evident. When core is broken, it breaks along an existing plane.



RANDOM FRACTURE (RF) - A natural break which does not belong to a joint set, and which exhibits a generally rough, very irregular, nonplanar surface.

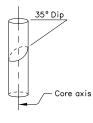


MECHANICAL BREAK (MB) - A break due to drilling, blasting, or handling. Mechanical breaks parallel to bedding or foliation are called Bedding Breaks (BB) or Foliation Breaks (FB), respectively. Recognizing mechanical breaks may be difficult The absence of oxidation, staining, or mineral fillings, and often a hackly or irregular surface are clues for recognition.



FRACTURE ZONE (FZ) - Numerous, very closely spaced intersecting fractures. Often fragmented core cannot be fitted together

METHOD OF MEASURING DIP OF PLANAR DISCONTINUITIES, FOLIATION, AND BEDDING IN CORE

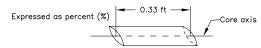


-Core axis 45° Inclination

 Vertical hole - true dip is measured and reported. 2. Angle hole - true dip usually not known; angle is measured from core axis and is called inclination

ROCK QUALITY DESIGNATION (RQD)

EXAMPLE SHOWN FOR CORE, BUT APPLICABLE TO ANY LINEAR OBSERVATION RQD = Sum of length of solid core pieces > 0.33 ft [4 in] (100 mm) long x 100 Length of the run in feet (mm)



FRACTURE FREQUENCY

FRACTURE FREQUENCY - The number of natural fractures occurring within a base length or core run. The number of fractures is divided by the length and is reported as fractures per foot or fractures per meter. Expressed as 3/m or

FRACTURE DENSITY

FRACTURE DENSITY — Based on the spacing of <u>all natural</u> fractures in an exposure or core recovery lengths in boreholes; excludes mechanical breaks, shears, and shear zones; however, shear—disturbed zones (fracturing outside the shear) are included. Descriptors for fracture density apply to all rock exposures such as tunnel walls, dozer trenches, outcrops, or foundation cut slopes and inverts, as well as boreholes. Descriptive criteria presented below are based on borehole cores where lengths are measured along the core axis. For other exposures the criterium is distance measured between fractures

UNFRACTURED (FD0): No fractures.

VERY SLIGHTLY FRACTURED (FD1): Core recovered mostly in lengths greater than 3 feet (1 m).

SLIGHTLY TO VERY SLIGHTLY FRACTURED (FD2) *

SLIGHTLY FRACTURED (FD3): Core recovered mostly in lengths from 1 to 3 feet (300 to 1000 mm) with few scattered lengths less than 1 foot (300 mm) or areater than 3 feet (1000 mm).

MODERATELY TO SLIGHTLY FRACTURED (FD4) *

MODERATELY FRACTURED (FD5): Core recovered mostly in 0.3- to 1.0-foot (100to 300-mm) lengths with most lengths about 0.6 foot (200 mm)

INTENSELY TO MODERATELY FRACTURED (FD6) *

INTENSELY FRACTURED (FD7): Lengths average from 0.1 to 0.3 foot (30 to 100 mm) with scattered fragmented intervals. Core recovered mostly in lengths less than 0.3 foot (100 mm).

VERY INTENSELY TO INTENSELY FRACTURED (FD8) *

VERY INTENSELY FRACTURED (FD9): Core recovered mostly as chips and fragments with a few scattered short core lengths.

* Combinations of fracture densities (e.g., Very Intensely to Intensely Fractured or Moderately to Slightly Fractured) are used where equal distribution of both fracture density characteristics are present over a significant interval or exposure, or where characteristics are "in between" the descriptor definitions

FRACTURE SPACING

JOINT SET OR FRACTURE SPACING DESCRIPTOR

EXTREMELY WIDELY SPACED (SP1) VERY WIDELY SPACED (SP2) WIDELY SPACED (SP3) MODERATELY SPACED (SP4) CLOSELY SPACED (SPS) VERY CLOSELY SPACED (SP6)

Greater then 10 ft (>3 m) 3 to 10 ft (1 to 3 m) 1 to 3 ft (300 mm to 1 m) 0.3 to 1 m (100 to 300 mm) 0.1 to 0.3 ft (30 to 100 mm less than 0.1 ft (<30 mm)

FRACTURE CONTINUITY

CONTINUITY DESCRIPTOR

DISCONTINUITY LENGTH

DISCONTINUOUS (C1) SLIGHTLY CONTINUOUS (C2) MODERATELY CONTINUOUS (C3) HIGHLY CONTINUOUS (C4) VERY CONTINUOUS (C5)

FRACTURE ENDS DESCRIPTOR

FILLING THICKNESS

MOTSTURE

Less than 3 ft (<1 m) 3 to 10 ft (1 to 3 m) 10 to 30 ft (3 to 10 m) 30 to 100 ft (10 to 30 m) Greater than 100 ft (>30 m)

FRACTURE ENDS (JOINT SURVEYS)

DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA

ΕØ Zero ends leave the exposure (both ends can be seen) E1 One end of the fracture terminates in the exposure (one end can be seen) F2 Neither fracture end terminates in the exposure

FRACTURE OPENNESS OR FILLING THICKNESS

DESCRIPTOR	THICKNESS/OPENNESS	DESCRIPTOR
CLEAN (TØ)	No film or coating.	
	No visible separation.	TIGHT (OØ)
VERY THIN (T1)	Less than 0.003 ft [1/32 in] (<1 mm).	SLIGHTLY OPEN (01)
MODERATELY THIN (T2)	0.003 to 0.01 ft [1/32 to 1/8 in] (1 to 3 mm).	MODERATELY OPEN (02
THIN (T3)	0.01 to 0.03 ft [1/8 to 3/8 in] (3 to 10 mm).	OPEN (03)
MODERATELY THICK (T4)	0.03 ft [3/8 in] to 0.1 ft (10 to 30 mm).	MODERATELY WIDE (04
THICK (T5)	Greater than 0.1 ft (>30 mm). Actual thickness or openings recorded.	WIDE (05)

FRACTURE MOISTURE CONDITIONS

DESCRIPTOR	DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA
M1	The fracture is dry. It is tight or filling (where present) is of sufficient density or composition to impede waterflow. Waterflow along the fracture does not appear possible.
M2	The fracture is dry with no evidence of previous waterflow. Waterflow appears possible.
М3	The fracture is dry, but shows evidence of waterflow such as staining, leaching and/or vegetation.
М4	The fracture or filling (where present) is damp, but no free water is present.
M5	The fracture shows seepage. It is wet with occasional drops of water.
М6	The fracture emits a continuous flow (estimate flow rate) under low pressure. Filling materials (where present) may show signs of leaching or piping.
М7	The fracture emits a continuous flow (estimate flow rate) under moderate to high pressure. Water is squirting and/or filling material (where present) may be substantially washed out.

FRACTURE ROUGHNESS

Refers to small-scale asperities of surfaces, not large-scale undula-

STEPPED (R1): Near-normal steps and ridges occur on the fracture surface.

ROUGH (R2): Large, angular asperities can be seen.
MODERATELY ROUGH (R3): Asperities are clearly visible and fracture surface feels abrasive.

SLIGHTLY ROUGH (R4): Small asperities on the fracture surface are visible and can be felt.

SMOOTH (R5): No asperities, smooth to the touch. POLISHED (R6): Extremely smooth and shiny

FRACTURE SURFACE AND/OR FILLING ALTERATION AND HARDNESS

Descriptors for weathering or alteration of fracture surfaces and fracture fillings (excluding soil materials) are the same as those used for weathering and

Descriptors for hardness/strength of fillings and/or fracture surfaces are the same as those presented for hardness of rock and consistency of soils.

DISCONTINUITY HEALING

TOTALLY HEALED (HL1) - All fragments bonded, discontinuity is completely healed or recemented to a degree at least as hard as surrounding rock.

MODERATELY HEALED (HL3) — Greater than 50 percent of fractured or sheared material, discontinuity surfaces or filling is healed or recemented; and/or strength of healing agent is less hard than surrounding rock.

PARTLY HEALED (HL5) - Less than 50 percent of fractured or sheared material, discontinuity surface or filling is healed or recemented.

NOT HEALED (HL6) - Discontinuity surface, fractured zone, sheared material or filling is not healed or recemented, rock fragments or filling (if present) held in place by their own angularity and/or cohesiveness.

SHEAR/FAULT DESCRIPTORS SHEAR/FAULT GOUGE CONSISTENCY

DESCRIPTOR DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA (Similar to consistency of soils) VERY HARD Gouge cannot be broken with finger pressure; cannot be indented with fingernail. Gouge can be broken with firm finger pressure; can be indented HARD with fingernail; cannot be indented with thumb. FIRM Gouge can be easily crumbled; can be indented with thumb 1 to SOFT Gouge can be easily molded; can be penetrated with thumb 5 to VERY SOFT Gouge can be penetrated with thumb more than 25 mm.

SHEAR/FAULT MOISTURE DESCRIPTORS

The apparent moisture content of gouge is described as WET (visible free water); MOİST (damp, but no visible water); and DRY (absence of moisture, dusty, dry to the touch). Moisture descriptors M1 through M7 may be used to describe

BRECCIA SHAPES

Angular. Subangular (Fril Subrounded. Platy (3) Lens-shaped. Wedge-shaped Contorted

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GEOLOGY FOR DESIGN & SPECIFICATIONS

STANDARD DESCRIPTORS AND DESCRIPTIVE CRITERIA FOR DISCONTINUITIES

GEOLOGY_NOMENCLATURE C	COMMITTEE _ CHECKED_ CH	HUCK SULLIVAN	
DRAWN _MARSHALL MONSON	TECH. APPROV	AL _ PETER_MROHRER	
APPROVEDMARK_MCKEOWN PEER REVIEWER			
CADD SYSTEM	CADD FILENAME	DATE AND TIME PLOTTED	

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